FBI questions 2 jailed when JFK was shot

BY JOHN BOLT
The Associated Press

DALLAS — FBI agents recently questioned two men arrested in a Dallas railroad yard the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, but only to put lingering conspiracy theories to rest, the head of the Dallas office said yesterday.

The interviews produced no new information, said Special Agent-in-Charge Oliver B. Revell.

Some conspiracy theorists have raised questions about the identities of three hobos who were arrested shortly after the assassination. They pointed to the trio's attire and grooming as too neat and the disappearance of their arrest records as evidence of a conspiracy.

Their arrest records were recently released by Dallas police.

"We're not reopening the Kennedy investigation per se," Revell said. "The broad-based freewheeling investigation has been closed, but, as always, any new information has been checked out."

In addition, Revell said, the agency wants to take another look at an 8mm film made in Dealey Plaza the day Kennedy was killed. The film was made before Kennedy was killed, but the agency wants to submit it to enhanced photo analysis techniques that were not available 28 years ago.

"There are a couple of other things that we're looking into," Revell said, but he would not elaborate.

The official Warren Commission investigation concluded that Kennedy was shot Nov. 22, 1963, by Lee Harvey Oswald and that Oswald acted alone.

But since that day, various theories have circulated that Kennedy was the victim of a conspiracy. Some of those theories were recently rekindled by the movie *JFK*, which suggests that the president was killed by renegade CIA elements who perceived that Kennedy was soft on communism.

The film has led to calls that secret government documents on the assassination be made public. Some Dallas Police Department files were subsequently released, and researchers found the arrest reports of the three hobos.

"The reports of those arrests disappeared, and it was always a point of contention that there was some ominous reason behind that," Revell said.

Two of the three are still alive, and Revell said, "since they had not been interviewed by the FBI, I wanted to complete the record."

The FBI interviewed John Forrester Gedney, who now lives in Melbourne, Fla., and Harold Doyle in Klamath Falls, Ore. The third, Gus W. Abrams, is dead, Revell said.

Gedney confirmed that he was one of the three and had talked to the FBI, but he declined to discuss the interview.

Doyle, reached at the Waldorf Billiard Parlor in Klamath Falls, also declined to discuss the interview.

"They both said they had been at the mission, they had gotten some food and gotten cleaned up and were wandering back toward the railroad yard" near Dealey Plaza, Revell said.

"Both of them checked out," Revell said. "They rode the rails for a while and then straightened their lives out."

The 8mm film that will be reviewed was shot in Dealey Plaza a few minutes before the assassination and had been discarded because "no relevant activity was observed," Revell said.

It has been suggested, however, that modern analysis might show movement in the windows of the Texas School Book Depository. The Warren Commission said Oswald shot Kennedy from the building's sixth floor.